

What is claimed is:

1. A damper unit comprising:

a casing having an exit;

a gear rotatably housed in the casing and having a core member projecting at an axial center thereof;

a string wound around the core member of the gear and extending outside the case through the exit;

a rotary damper disposed in the casing and engaging the gear for damping a rotational force of the gear; and

a spring disposed in the casing and having one end fixed to the case and the other end fixed to the core member of the gear for accumulating an elastic force when the string is pulled out.

2. A damper unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rotary damper is a one-way damper for damping the rotational force of the gear only when the gear is rotated in a direction that the string is pulled out.

3. A damper unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein said core member includes a cylindrical portion, on which the string is wound, and said casing includes a boss inserted into the cylindrical portion, said one end of the spring being fixed to the boss projecting from the case and the other end being fixed to an inner peripheral surface of the cylindrical portion.

4. A damper unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein said spring is a spiral spring so that when the string is pulled out, the cylindrical portion is rotated to allow the spiral spring to tighten the boss.

5. A damper unit as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a guiding member provided at the exit of the casing for guiding the string.

5 6. A damper unit as claimed in claim 5, wherein said guiding member is a roller.

7. A glove box device to be attached to a vehicle body comprising a glove box main portion, and the damper unit as claimed in claim
10 1 fixed to one of the glove box main portion and the vehicle body, said string having one end fixed to the other of the glove box main portion and the vehicle body.